

JOHN DILLON, ESQUIRE.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 2 June 1881;—for,

COPY "of a LETTER addressed by *John Dillon*, Esquire, Member for the
County of *Tipperary*, to Mr. Speaker, and of Mr. Speaker's Reply thereto."

— No. 1. —

Mr. *John Dillon*, M.P., to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Sir,

Kilmainham Gaol, 29 May 1881.

I DESIRE to inform you that I am forcibly detained in this prison under a Warrant signed by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. I have not broken the law, nor am I charged with any crime.

I represent one of the largest agricultural constituencies in Ireland. My constituents are vitally interested in a measure now before the House of Commons, the Land Law (Ireland) Bill; and at the time of my arrest I had arranged to leave for London in a few days, in order to bring the views of my constituents on this measure (which I had taken particular pains to collect) under the notice of the House; and also for the purpose of bringing to the notice of the House of Commons certain other matters touching most nearly the maintenance of law and order in this country. And I had hoped that by directing the attention of the House in good time to these matters, I might have been the means of saving the lives of some of Her Majesty's subjects.

Will you kindly communicate the contents of this letter to the House.

I am anxious to know whether it is not an interference with my Privilege, as a Member of Parliament, to detain me here forcibly, and so prevent me from representing the interests of my constituents.

Further, I have to state that on Tuesday last the Chief Secretary for Ireland, in explaining the reasons for my detention, read out an inaccurate and imperfect report of a speech spoken by me on 27th April.

I wish to have an opportunity of stating to the House what I did say, as I feel convinced that what I said on 27th April does not afford any justification for my arrest.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John Dillon*,

Member of Parliament for the County of *Tipperary*.

To Mr. Speaker,
House of Commons.

— No. 2. —

The Speaker of the House of Commons to Mr. *John Dillon*, M.P.

Sir,

House of Commons, 30 May 1881.

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th instant.

In reply, I have to inform you that your arrest and imprisonment in the gaol of Kilmainham were communicated to the House of Commons on the 4th instant by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in pursuance of the Act for the better Protection of Person and Property in Ireland.

As your letter does not relate to any matters of Privilege, I have not thought it necessary to lay it before the House.

Believe me, &c.

(signed) *H. Brand*.

J. Dillon, Esq., M.P.

JOHN BELLON, ESQUIRE

COPY of a Letter addressed by John Bellon,
Esquire, Member for the County of Tipperary,
to Mr. Speaker, and of Mr. Speaker's Reply
thereto,

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